

tion of his considerable fortune as a mining engineer of incorruptible honesty and high ability—he was actually on the Rand at the time of the Jameson Raid—and that he has bequeathed his collection of Transvaal stamps, much the finest in existence, to the Africana Museum in Johannesburg.

As may be inferred from his legacies to the *Eugenics Society* and to other societies of a like nature, Mr. Curle was profoundly interested in the future of the race. An agnostic in religion, he held that this was the only world on which people ought to concentrate, and he was disturbed at the lack of vision which governed the social outlook. He had a firm belief in the British character, but he felt the things of vital importance were left too much to chance and that the general run of people were emotionally ignorant and unstable.

Mr. Curle was much drawn to music, literature and art, and during his life presented valuable pictures to Australia and Rhodesia. But his munificence, very little of which was ever publicized (for he hated the limelight), was universal, and though his largest single gift was one of \$250,000 to the British Government in the early days of this war, he made a number of other handsome public gifts. His practical kindness to his relations and friends knew no bounds and, in the form of annuities and legacies, continues to this day. As one of his oldest friends wrote shortly after his death, "I think he was one of the most consistently generous men who ever lived."

J. H. Curle had a genius for making and keeping friends wherever he went. Nothing

gave him keener pleasure than entertaining large parties, and as he was a connoisseur both of food and wine and had a fund of amusing stories he was in every respect the ideal host. And yet in his habits he was extremely simple and, indeed, entirely unconventional. He had few personal possessions, cared little about clothes, and was quite prepared to rough it at a moment's notice. Though often caustic in his observations, he was charitable in his actions, and if he offended some people by a certain downrightness of manner and dogmatism of utterance, he endeared himself to more by the charm of his personality, once the outer reserve had been pierced, and by the inherent goodness of his heart.

R. C.

SIR EDWARD POULTON

WE regret to record the death at Oxford, on November 20th, 1943, of Sir Edward Poulton, F.R.S., at the age of 87. Sir Edward was Hope Professor of Zoology at Oxford University from 1893 to 1933. Among his many distinctions, he twice served on the Council of the Royal Society and was Vice-President during 1909-10, and Darwin Medallist in 1914. He had also presided over the Linnean Society and the Royal Entomological Society.

Sir Edward Poulton became a Fellow of the *Eugenics Society* in November 1924, and was co-opted to the Council in December 1939 as representative of the Oxford Eugenics Society. He was elected Vice-President in 1927 and resigned his seat on the Council in 1935.

K. H.